

January 18, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

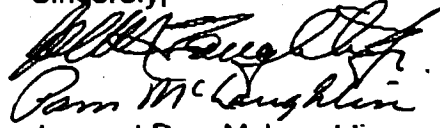
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

We are writing to say we agree with the proposed settlement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. We feel the terms of the settlement are just.

Microsoft has maintained their huge market share by investing heavily in their Windows operating system and charging competitive prices, which are a benefit to the consumer. This has resulted in a standard in the computer industry that otherwise would have been difficult to achieve. This has been critical to the efficient management of computers in businesses and development of cost effective, robust application software.

Future progress in the computer industry will be further hampered if the settlement terms are thrown out and judicial proceedings continue. We feel that now is the time to give Microsoft the opportunity to make good on their promises and resolve any uncompetitive practices that were identified in the suit.

Sincerely,



Pam McLaughlin
Joe and Pam McLaughlin